## BEFORE

## THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 97-301-E - ORDER NO. 97-975

NOVEMBER 17, 1997

IN RE: Hartsville H.M.A., Inc. and Carolina Power & Light Company,

Complainants,

vs.

Pee Dee Electric Cooperative, Inc.,

Respondent.

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the oral arguments held in this matter on November 13, 1997 at 10:00 A.M. Pee Dee Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Pee Dee or the Coop.) supplemented its last argument on its pending Motion to Dismiss this proceeding.

The oral arguments were held in the offices of the Commission, with the Honorable Guy Butler, Chairman, presiding. The Coop. was represented by Arthur G. Fusco, Esquire, William S. Derrick, Esquire, and Joyce L. Davis, Esquire. Hartsville H.M.A., Inc. and Carolina Power & Light (CP&L) were represented by Mark Buyck, Esquire and William F. Austin, Esquire. The Commission Staff was represented by F. David Butler, General Counsel.

We note that there is a concurrent proceeding concerning this matter before the Circuit Court. We therefore deny the Motion to Dismiss of the Coop. at this time, however, we hold that discovery, prefiling dates, and the hearing shall be stayed until the Circuit Court rules on the merits of this case. We believe that this is consistent with principles of judicial economy.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chairman

ATTEST:

eputy Executive Director

(SEAL)